A TRUE

ACCOUNT,

OF THE

Behaviour, and Manner of the Execution of six persons *viz.*

Henry Cornish, and *Elizabeth Gaunt*,
Condemned for

High-Treason,

Richard Hooker, for Robery on the High Way. *Samuel Presby*, for Robery. *Edward Linsey*, for Deserting his Colours. *Thomas Crompton*, for Murthering *Edward Herring*. Who were Executed on *Friday* the 23*th.* of *October* 1685.

Henry Cornish, at *Sper-Lane* End in

CHEAPSIDE,

Edward Linsey on

TOWER-HILL,

Richard Hooker, *Samuel Presby*, *Thomas Crompton*, *Elizabeth Gant* at

TYBURN:

The said *Elizabeth Gaunt* Burnt, for High-Treason.

IT is observed, that frequent Examples have not been hitherto sufficient to deter some Persons from committing Crimes, which render them lyable to the severity of Justice; whose heavy stroak puts a Period to their Days with shame and disgrace, as an Instance of which, more than heretofore has been observed; I shall recite in the following Pages.

Henry Cornish, a Person well known in the City of *London*, if not throughout the whole Kingdom, not weighing his Duty and Allegience to his lawful Severeign, at a time he was in a Station to serve his Prince: Being brought upon his Tryal, upon an Indictment of *High-Treason*, found against him at the Sessions House in the *Old-Bayly*, and there pleading not Guilty; it was proved

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by ſufficient Evidence, that he was at a Meeting, where divers Treaſonable Propoſals were tendered; and that he was not only conniving, but conſenting thereto; to which, he only producing Evidence to prove his Behauiour, &c was upon full Evidence in that Caſe found Guilty, and received Sentence as in Caſe of *High-Treaſon*. On *Monday* the 19*th*. of this Inſtant *October*, 1685. at the place aforeſaid, after which, being reconveyed to the County Goal of *Newgate*, he become very ſenſible of approaching Death; ſpending the time allowed him, in order to prepare himſelf for a future State in Pious Devotions, appearing much concerned at the miſery that had befallen him; confeſſing that his ſins had provoked the Almighty to ſuffer him to run into thoſe lawleſs ways, that had brought him in the end, to ſhame and diſgrace; and ſo continued very penitent: When on *Friday* the 23*th*. of *October*, purſuant to a Warrant ſigned for his Execution, he was couveyed by the Sheriffs Officers to a Gibbet ſet up for that purpoſe, between *Kings-ſtreet* and *Soper-Lane* in *Cheapſide*; and there after the Repetition of ſome Prayers, and the like, Executed according to Law.

William Ring, being tryed at *Juſtice-Hall* in the *Old-Bayly* the 19*th* of *October*, upon an Indictment laid againſt him, for harbouring, comforting, and maintaining *Joſeph Kelloway*, a Rebel and Traytor to his moſt ſacred Majeſty, knowing him ſo to be; as being one of thoſe actually in the Weſtern Rebellion, as likewiſe one *Lawrence*, another Rebel and Traytor; he knowing him ſo to be, which being plainly made out againſt him, and he making but a ſlender Excuſe or Defence was found Guilty of the Treaon, according to the Statute in that Caſe made and ptovided; after which, being reconveyed to *Newgate*, he as the former became very penſive, conſidering his Latter End, and acknowledging that he had been a grievous ſinner; yet he hoped God would in the abundance of his mercy, pardon and forgive him, as he heartily deſired to forgive all the World; intreating ſuch as came to viſit him, (during the reſpit) to pray for him in their retirements, hoping as he ſaid, that in his laſt extremity it might prevail with the Almighty, to ſupport and ſtrengthen him; and further proceeded to acknowledge that for his ſins the puniſhment he was to undergo had fallen upon him; and that he deſired nothing more, than to bear it with patience: He was often obſerved to pray both publickly and privately whilſt he was in *Newgate*, and to ask Queſtions as to his eternal ſtate of ſuch as came to viſit him, and continued in a moderate temper, ſenſible of his offence; But his Majeſty was pleaſed, out of his Royal Clemency and and Mercy to grant him a Gracious Reprieve.

Elizabeth Gaunt, being Indicted at *Juſtice-Hall* in the *Old-Bayly*, upon an Indictment of *High-Treaſon* on the 19*h*. Inſtant, for harbouring and comforting *John Burton* Out-Lawed for *High-Treaſon*, endeavouring to provide for his eſcape and flight from Juſtice; and thereupon puting her ſelf upon God and her Country, it was proved that ſhe had harboured the ſaid *Burton* knowing him to be ſo Out-Law'd; to which ſhe having very little to object, the Juriors upon the return of their Verdict, brought her in Guilty of the *High-Treaſon* as laid in the Indictment, and ſhe according to the Statute in that Caſe made, and provided, received Sentence to be Burnt, after which, with a heavy Countenance returning to *Newgate*, ſhe as the former became very penſive, ſeeming much deſirous of Life at firſt, as it is

ſuppoſed

ſuppoſed, flattering her ſelf with hopes of a Pardon; but finding her offence admitted of no mercy, ſhe ſeriouſly reflected on her Latter End, often lifting her Eyes towards Heaven, and extending her Arms, deſiring the God of infinite mercies to pardon her ſins, and blot out all her tranſgreſſions; giving him praiſe that he had taught her to number her days, intreating him that ſhe might apply her heart to Wiſdom, and was often obſerved to retire, as much as the conveniency of the place would permit, and pray to her ſelf continuing that ſtate, till the day according to its ſpecification in the Warrant came for her Execution: When being conveyed to *Tyburn*, the common place of Execution, ſhe was faſtened with a Cord to a Poſt a midſt a Pile of Faggots, which being ſet on fire after ſhe had been a while ſtrangled, ſhe was thereby reduced to Aſhes.

Edward Linſey, of the Pariſh of St. *Alhallows Barkin*, was Indicted the laſt *Seſſions* at *Juſtice-Hall* in the *Old Bayly* for deſerting his Colours; after his having betaken himſelf to his Majeſties ſervice, and received three ſhillings ſixpence Pay, which being proved againſt him, he was found Guilty, and Sentenced to dye, when upon his return to *Newgate*, he for a time ſeemed reſolute; but perceiving that his offence admitted neither Pardon nor Reprieve he became ſomewhat ſerious, and began to reflect upon his paſt ill-ſpent life, ſaying, he had been a grievous ſinner, and that for his many Enormities, God had brought him to ſhame and puniſhment, which, as he ſaid nevertheleſs hoped might redound to his advantage in another life; and ſo continued a ſenſe of his condition, both in *Newgate* and at the place of Execution, which, that it might deter others from the like diſregard and diſloyalty; whereupon a Gibbet Erected on *Tower-Hill* for that purpoſe, he ſuffered according to Sentence.

Richard Hooker, being tryed and found guilty, for Robing one *Arthur Anſlow* on the High-Way, and taking from him divers things of value, received Sentence, and with the reſt being conveyed to *Newgate* became more than ordinarily concerned at the near approach of Death, being much deſirous to live, asking divers that came to viſit him, if they thought he ſhould be pardoned; but finding the day of diſſolution at hand without any appearance of ſuch Grace and Favour; his Crime being of too high a Nature to admit his longer continuance on Earth; he much bewailed his unhappy State, ſaying, that bad Company had inticed and drawn him away by degrees of ſin, till he became bold therein; but that God by this affliction had made him ſenſible of his Latter End, and that he was but Duſt; therefore he earneſtly adviſed all that heard him, or beheld the ſad Example he was made, in forfeiting his Life to offended Juſtice, thereby to take warning, and make it their buſineſs to live honeſtly and not give heed to temptations of the like nature: He ſaid he was born of honeſt Parentage, and had good Education, but that he miſemployed it, and through his Obſtinacy and Diſobedience, became improſperous in the World who, had he been ruled, might have lived happy and comfortable.

Thomas Crompton, being tryed for Killing one *Edward Herring*, on the 20*th*. of *Auguſt* laſt upon a Reſcue, giving him a mortal Wound, *&c.* and plain proof being made out againſt him, he was found Guilty of wilful murther, and received Sentence of Death: When returning to *Newgate*, in order to expect the Execution of that Sentence; he appeared very much concerned at his misfortune a nd more for the Blood he had ſhed; ſaying, he had been Guilty of Sabbath-breaking and Prophaneneſs; for which, he verily believed

lieved, that God being highly offended with him, had suffered him to commit a Crime punishable with Death, yet he nevertheless hoped for mercy at the hands of his Creator, and that he should be saved, through the meritorious Death and Passion of his Dear and Compassionate Saviour, desiring the Prayers of his Visitants; that God would strengthen him patiently to undergo the punishment which for his offence the Law should inflict upon him, being observed at sundry times to give good heed and attention to such expressions as were delivered, relating to his Eternal Well fare, and so continued to the last.

Samuel Presby, being tryed upon an Indictment the preceedent Sessions, for stealihg 119 Yards of Cloath, value at 36 *l.* out of the Ware-House of one Mr. *Smith* of *St. Mary Hill*, and upon proof that he had confessed it, was found Guilty; he received Sentence of Death, having before been Burnt in the Hand: He in *Newgate* during the respit, much exclaimed against bad Company, saying, that, that had been his ruin; especially associating himself with Lewd Women; desiring all Persons, but more especially the younger sort to shun and avoid them, least by their means, they were taken in the snare of inevitable ruin and disgrace: Continuing very penitent, not only in *Newgate*, but at the place of Execution.

Catharine Brown of *Twitenham*, in the County of *Middlesex*, being tryed at the *Old Bayly* for Murthering her Bastard Child, on the 4*th* of this Instant *October* and found Guilty, received Sentence as the former; she in *Newgate*, greatly lamented her unhappy state, saying, she had been deluded and drawn away to commit uncleanness, and by retiring to avoid the shame and punishment of that offence she had fallen into a greater, but was heartily sorry for her misdoings; looking upon the Sentence she lay under, to be the just reward of her sins: She said she had been well Educated, and brought up by careful and indulgent Parents, but being of a rambling Disposition; it was her misfortune to be over-come with fair Words to yield to lawless Embraces, but hoped God would forgive her that, and her other folleys; pleased out of his Royal Clemency and Mercy, to grant to her a Gracious Reprieve.

On the 23*th*. of *October*, 1685. *Richard Hooker*, *Elizabeth Gant*, *Samuel Presby* and *Thomas Crompton*, were conveyed to *Tyburn*; and there after praying a while, and the usual Ceremonies performed, they were Executed according to Sentence.

The rest, whose Names are not herein mentioned, but were Sentenced the last *Sessions*, received a Gracious Reprieve.

This may be Printed, R. L. S.
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